



May 24, 2017

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Actions to Accelerate Adoption and Accessibility of Broadband-Enabled Health Care Solutions and Advanced Technologies GN Docket No. 16-46*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Hughes Network Systems, LLC, (“Hughes”) commends the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”) for adopting the above referenced public notice to solicit comments and information on the necessary steps to ensure that vital broadband-enabled health care services are available to Americans regardless of where they live.

As the largest provider of satellite broadband services in United States, with over one million subscribers in North America, Hughes is deeply committed to ensuring that broadband connectivity can be accessible to everyone, even those living in the most rural and remote regions of the United States. With the recent launch of EchoStar XIX in December 2016, Hughes is providing Commission defined broadband speeds of 25/3 throughout the Continental United States and Southern Alaska directly to consumers, enterprises, and the government. This nationwide availability enables satellite to become an essential component to the broadband-enabled health care solutions ecosystem.

In response to the above referenced public notice, Hughes is submitting the attached White Paper entitled, “Enabling Healthcare Connectivity in the United States through Satellite Broadband,” which outlines the significant benefits of satellite broadband services in providing broadband-enabled health care solutions. Satellite broadband offers a cost-effective, resilient, and already-there service to support bringing a wide-variety of health care solutions across the United States. As the White Paper notes, it is critical that the Commission and the U.S. Government ensure that there is a technology neutral regime for access to spectrum and funding to ensure the availability of competing platforms, including satellite broadband, to meet the needs of Americans for broadband-enabled health care solutions.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jennifer A. Manner

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Attachment

cc: Jay Schwarz
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